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BOROUGH OF BANBURY



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Chief Sanitary Inspector

for the Year 1950

H. E. Boddy & Co. Ltd., Factory Street, Banbury
1951



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BOROUGH OF BANBURY

Mayor—

COUNCILLOR THOMAS HASKINS

Deputy Mayor—

ALDERMAN FRANK PARTRIDGE

Public Health Committee

*Chairman—*COUNCILLOR J. TOOLE

*Vice-Chairman—*COUNCILLOR MRS. JOHNSON

ALDERMAN PARTRIDGE

COUNCILLOR JELFS

COUNCILLOR BERRY

COUNCILLOR SPOKES

COUNCILLOR MISS BUSTIN

COUNCILLOR PRICE

COUNCILLOR COLLISSON

COUNCILLOR WALKLETT

COUNCILLOR HUNT

COUNCILLOR YOUNG

*Town Clerk and Clerk of Peace—*E. OWEN REID, *Solicitor.*

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:

A. J. CAMPBELL, B.Sc. (Oxon), M.D. (St. And.), D.P.H.,
Barrister-at-Law, Middle Temple.

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Certified Meat Inspector:

F. APPLEYARD, D.P.A. (Lond.), F.R.San.I., A.M.I.S.E.,
M.I.H. (Hons.).

Additional Sanitary Inspectors and Certified Meat Inspectors:

S. D. COX, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., A.M.I.S.E.

T. H. CUTLER, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. (Certified Smoke
Inspector).

Clerks:

R. THOMAS (Chief Clerk).

Miss R. HARRIS (Shorthand Typist).

Rodent Officer and Disinfecting Officer:

J. O. HUMPHRIS.



To the Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Banbury

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the Health Services of the Borough during 1950. The report is prepared in accordance with the requirements of Circulars 2/50 and 112/50 of the Ministry of Health.

Vital Statistics.

Just prior to the publication of this report the Census figures for 1951 became available. The population of the Borough is 18,917, an increase of 4,919 or 35.1% of the 1931 figure. The Vital Statistics for 1950, however, are based on the Registrar-General's estimate for that year 19,010.

The Birth Rate is 16.41 as compared with 15.8 for England and Wales and 18.01 for Banbury in 1949. The Death Rate is 10.78 as compared with 11.6 for England and Wales and 9.98 for Banbury in 1949. The classification of causes of death has been altered in 1950 by the Registrar-General in accordance with the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1948; they are now classified under 36 main headings. As far as Banbury is concerned Heart Disease heads the list with 54 deaths—17 from Coronary Thrombosis, 8 from Heart Disease with Hypertension and 29 from other forms of Heart Disease. Next is Cancer with 33 deaths (Stomach 6, Lung 7, Breast 6, Uterus 5, other organs 9). The number of cases of Cancer of the Lung appears to be increasing in recent years and recent research has suggested that smoking may be a factor, but the matter is still *sub judice*. The numbers of deaths from Cancer as a whole in Banbury are not higher than those of recent years. Next in the list is Vascular Disease of the Nervous System (Cerebral Haemorrhage) with 29 and Pneumonia which has 16.

There were 9 deaths of infants under one year which gives an Infant Mortality of 28.84 as compared with 29.9 for England and Wales.

Housing.

As mentioned in previous reports the housing situation continues to be the most urgent public health problem in the Borough, and the need for an accurate housing survey is again emphasised.

Several cases have been dealt with under the Housing Act, 1936, Section 11, during the year by the making of demolition orders, but it will be necessary to deal with several Clearance Areas as soon as conditions permit.

There is a good deal of overcrowding in the Borough, although at the present moment it is impossible to estimate the position with any degree of accuracy.

Infectious Diseases.

The incidence of infectious disease in the Borough has again been low. The number of cases of Scarlet Fever is the same as last year (24), not an unduly high figure in view of the degree of overcrowding which is bound to exist. Two new schools have recently been opened in Banbury and further schools are in the course of construction, and this has certainly helped to relieve overcrowding in the schools which is such an important factor in the spread of disease.

Four cases of Diphtheria occurred—all in adults who had not previously been immunised. The incidence of Measles and Whooping Cough was low in 1950.

With regard to Poliomyelitis the number of cases (8) was rather higher than usual. Of these only 2 were associated with paralysis—both occurred in adults. The preventive measures in this disease are as yet indefinite; the incidence appears to increase as sanitation improves. The most important factor in the prevention of subsequent paralysis is the avoidance of physical activity during the early stages of the illness.

Food Hygiene.

Increasing attention is being paid to the question of Food Hygiene, and as stated in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report, a survey of all food premises in the Borough has now been carried out. This is a subject of supreme importance in connection with the spread of all intestinal infections—especially Food Poisoning, Dysentery and Typhoid. Many local authorities are now providing courses of instruction for food handlers in their areas and it seems desirable that such instruction should be provided in Banbury at an early date.

Staff.

I should like, in conclusion, to congratulate the staff of the Health Department in a remarkable number of examination successes gained during the year. Mr. F. Appleyard, Chief Sanitary Inspector, obtained the Diploma in Public Administration of the University of London. Both Additional Sanitary Inspectors also gained successes. Mr. Cox passed the examination

for the Certificate in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works held by the Royal Sanitary Institute and also obtained by examination the Associate-Membership of the Institution of Sanitary Engineers; while Mr. Cutler obtained the Smoke Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

In addition, I should also like to thank all of the staff of the department for their valuable co-operation during the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

A. J. CAMPBELL,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area	5,051 acres
Population (1951 Census)	18,917
Population (1950 Estimated Reg. Gen.) ...	19,010
Rateable Value	£138,180
Product of Penny Rate	£470

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year 1950.

Live Births.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	158	143	301
Illegitimate	8	3	11
Totals	166	146	312

BIRTH RATE per 1,000 of Estimated

Population	16.41
(England and Wales—15.8)	

Stillbirths.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	2	1	3
Illegitimate	—	—	—
RATE per 1,000 (Live and Stillbirths) ...			9.61

Deaths.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Deaths	104	101	205
DEATH RATE per 1,000 of Estimated			
Population			10.78
(England and Wales—11.6)			

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age.

	Number.	Rate.
All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	9	28.84
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live		
Births	9	29.90
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate		
Live Births	—	—
(England and Wales—29.8)		

Causes of Death of Infants under One Year of Age.

Causes : Legitimate :

Asphyxia	...	...	3
Broncho-pneumonia	...	...	3
Acute Bronchitis	...	...	1
Birth Injury	...	...	1
Prematurity	...	...	1
Illegitimate	...	...	Nil

Causes of Death, 1950.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
1. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	2	4	6
3. Syphilitic disease	1	0	1
5. Whooping Cough	0	1	1
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	0	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	2	4	6
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	6	1	7
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	0	6	6
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	0	5	5
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	4	5	9
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	0	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	11	16	27
18. Coronary disease, angina	10	7	17
19. Hypertension of heart disease ...	6	6	12
20. Other heart disease	13	16	29
21. Other circulatory disease	5	3	8
22. Influenza	1	0	1
23. Pneumonia	8	8	16
24. Bronchitis	4	3	7
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	3	0	3
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	3	0	3
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	1	0	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	3	0	3
31. Congenital malformations	0	1	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	12	7	19
33. Motor vehicle accidents	2	1	3
34. All other accidents	2	5	7
35. Suicide	1	1	2
Totals	104	101	205

Deaths from—Cancer (all ages) ... ..	...	...	33
Whooping Cough (all ages) ... ..	...	...	1
Measles (all ages) ... ..	...	...	Nil

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. Staff of the Public Health Department.

A list of members of the Staff of the Public Health Department is given at the beginning of this report.

(a) Laboratory Facilities.

Laboratory work for the Borough is carried out at:—

- (a) the Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford.
- (b) Horton General Hospital, Banbury.
- (c) Counties Public Health Laboratory, 66 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1 (Water Examinations only).

The following are the details of the work carried out in 1950 at the Oxford Laboratory :

SWABS	Number examined	...	...	...	141
	Positive after haemolytic Streptococci				28
	Positive after Vincent's Angina	...			2
	Positive after Diphtheria	...	...		2
	Negative	...	...	...	111
FAECES.....	Number examined (all negative)	...			5
OTHER EXAMINATIONS	Total	...	...	...	3

(b) Nursing in the Home.

Facilities are provided by the County Council under Sec. 257 National Health Service Act, 1946, through the agency of the Oxfordshire Nursing Federation.

(c) Clinics and Treatment Centres.

CLINIC	PLACE	TIME
1. Maternity & Child Welfare Clinic	School Clinic, Warwick Road	Tuesday and Friday 2.30 p.m.
2. Ante Natal Clinic	"	Wednesday 2.30 p.m.
3. School Clinic	"	Each weekday 9 a.m. also Tuesday 2 p.m.
4. Child Guidance	"	Thursday 10.30 a.m.

5. Speech Clinic	„	Wednesday 10 a.m.
6. Eye Clinic	Horton Hospital	Monday 10 a.m.
7. Orthopædic Clinic	„	Thursdays (1st & 3rd) 2.30 p.m.
8. Tuberculosis Clinic	„	Thursday 1 p.m.
9. V.D. Clinic	Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford	Males—Wed. 6 p.m. Sat. 3 p.m. Females—Mon. 6 p.m. Wed. 3 p.m.
10. Diphtheria Immunisation	School Clinic	1st Tues. each month 3 p.m.

Puerperal Pyrexia—1 case occurred during the year.

Maternal Deaths—There were no maternal deaths during the year.

Illegitimate Children.

There were 11 illegitimate births during the year. Of these none died before reaching the age of one year. This represents an Infant Mortality Rate of 0.0 per 1,000 as against 29.90 for legitimate children.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. Water Supply.

Water for the Borough was, up to the end of 1946, supplied by the Banbury Water Company but, during that year, a Bill was passed by Parliament under which the Town Council acquired the undertaking as from the 1st January, 1947. (Banbury Corporation Act, 1946.)

The water supply is from the River Cherwell at Grimsbury and the Sor Brook at Adderbury; it is treated by sand and mechanical filters and is also chlorinated. During 1950 the supply was constant and sufficient.

During the year, 24 samples of water were taken for chemical and bacteriological examination. All were reported to be satisfactory and suitable for a public supply.

With the exception of a few houses on the outskirts of the town (30 separate premises), all are on the public supply. During the last five years town's water has been laid on at 18 premises hitherto supplied from wells or springs and the supplies have been

improved at 6 premises by the provision of a filtration plant in one case; the cleaning out of wells in four cases; and the provision of an alternative satisfactory well supply at the other house. Six cases of unsatisfactory well water supplies were under consideration at the close of the year and steps were being taken to improve these supplies.

During 1950, 10 specimens of water were examined from wells and other private supplies in the Borough, with results as follows:

Class 1	...	...	1	Less than 1 B. Coli per 100 c.c.
Class 2	...	...	1	„ 1—2 „
Class 3	...	...	3	„ 3—10 „
Class 4	...	...	5	Greater than 10 „

These classifications are those of the Ministry of Health.

2. Drainage and Sewerage.

No important works were carried out during the year except the extension of sewers in connection with the Corporation's housing programme. Drainage repairs and improvements carried out under the supervision of the Department during 1950 included:

Drains cleared of obstruction	...	...	...	49
Drains repaired or relaid	...	...	...	21
Soilpipes repaired	...	...	...	3
Inspection chambers provided	...	...	...	10

3. Rivers and Streams.

The Thames Conservancy Board exercise general supervision over the rivers and streams in the Borough. The water-courses conveying storm water received attention from the Sanitary Inspector during the year and some cleansing of water-courses was carried out.

4. Closet Accommodation.

Practically all the dwelling-houses in the Borough are provided with water closets except a few on the extreme outskirts of the town where the water carriage system is not available. Improvements to closet accommodation carried out as a result of the

work of the Sanitary Inspector were :

New water closets provided	...	...	...	11
W.C. compartments repaired	...	...	...	101
W.C. compartments cleansed	...	...	...	20
W.C. pedestals provided	...	...	...	25
W.C. cisterns provided	...	...	...	26

5. Public Cleansing.

This work is carried out under the supervision of the Borough Surveyor and has been well maintained during the year.

6. Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Particulars of the work of the Sanitary Inspectors are given in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector at the end of this report.

SECTION D

HOUSING.

1. Unfit Houses.

As has been mentioned in several previous reports, the housing conditions in the Borough are still a matter of grave concern and, as soon as conditions permit, it will be necessary to deal with several areas as Clearance Areas and with many individual unfit houses by Demolition Order procedure. A survey of some 500/600 low standard houses in the Borough, carried out during the last two years, has confirmed the necessity for a considerable amount of such action.

During 1950, a large amount of housing repair work was again carried out and 436 houses were dealt with under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, and the Housing Act, 1936. Four unfit houses were demolished during the year—three as a result of informal action and one following an official representation, and four further unfit houses were closed during the same period. Two of the latter premises were closed following official representations and the remaining two by informal action. In one case the owner appealed to the County Court against the Corporation's action in making a Closing Order on a basement flat on the grounds that the premises were not, in fact, unfit for

human habitation. This appeal was dismissed with costs against the owner and, at a later date, a further appeal made to the County Court on the grounds that the premises had been made fit for human habitation was similarly dismissed with cost to the Corporation.

It is to be regretted that the national housing survey, visualised in my last report, has not yet materialised and it is to be hoped that conditions will soon allow such a survey to be carried out as it would appear that, only by the carrying out of such a survey, can the full housing problem be ascertained.

2. Overcrowding.

The lack of precise details makes it impossible for comment to be made, with any degree of accuracy, with respect to the position in the Borough with regard to overcrowding. It is certain, however, that a good deal of overcrowding does exist in the area in spite of the fact that the Corporation's post-war housing programme has now alleviated some of the worst cases. In this connection, too, I feel that a national housing survey would be of inestimable benefit in so far that it would enable local authorities to obtain precise data with regard to the problem of overcrowding in their areas.

It is anticipated that the re-housing of overcrowded families will form a substantial part of the Corporation's future housing programme and this fact should not be lost sight of when their long-term housing policy is being considered.

SECTION E

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

(a) Milk Supply.

As a result of the operation of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, the Corporation's duties with respect to the supervision of the milk supply is now mainly concentrated on the distribution side, the responsibility for the supervision of milk production now being in the hands of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, whilst the responsibility for supervising milk pasteurisation plants has been placed upon the County Council.

During the year under review, therefore, the work of the Sanitary Inspectors has been devoted to the inspection of dairies and the sampling of milk and both these duties have been given satisfactory attention. 29 visits of inspection of dairies were recorded during the year and 66 samples of milk were taken. Some improvements were effected to certain dairies in the area, such improvements being detailed on page 25 of the Chief Sanitary Inspector's report.

As required by the new Regulations, the dairies were re-registered during the year, as were the milk distributors and there are now on the register :—

Premises Registered as Dairies ...	...	8
Persons Registered as Milk Distributors		8

During 1950, the following licences were granted by the Corporation under the provisions of the Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, and the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949 :—

Dealers' Licences (T.T. Milk) ...	...	4
Dealers' Licences (Pasteurised Milk) ...		1

Routine milk sampling was well maintained during the year and the following table shows the number and results of the samples taken :—

<i>Type of Milk</i>	<i>Samples Taken</i>	<i>Samples Satisfactory</i>
Tuberculin Tested (Past.)	10	10
Pasteurised	48	48
Heat Treated	8	8
	—	—
Totals ...	66	66
	—	—

These results are highly satisfactory and it is interesting to note that 49 samples taken in Banbury during 1950 by the County Council's Officer were all similarly satisfactory. So far as is known, no raw milk—except T.T. milk—is now being retailed in the area and it is estimated that approximately 95% of the milk passing through the town's dairies is now rendered safe by

pasteurisation. On the whole, therefore, it is reasonable to state that the town's milk supply is at present highly satisfactory.

(b) Meat Inspection.

During 1950, as in the three previous years, every animal slaughtered for human food in the Borough was inspected prior to sale and, in the period under review, the carcasses, parts of carcasses and offal detailed in the table below were condemned and surrendered :—

	Cattle		Sheep		Pigs		Calves	
Total number of Animals Slaughtered and Inspected	2596		6188		683		2113	
	No	Weight	No	Weight	No	Weight	No	Weight
Carcasses Condemned :								
Tuberculosis ..	17	7856	—	—	3	597	1	32
Other Diseases ..	15	6148	36	1448	8	964	16	703
Total (A)	32	14004	36	1448	11	1561	17	735
Parts of Carcasses, Organs etc.								
Total Offal	32	3530	36	268	11	134	17	176
Livers	507	11225	112	251	8	29	4	15
Lungs	225	2265	329	655	26	98	4	11
Heads	150	3939	17	84	16	381	1	6
Tongues	163	1128	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spleens	18	55	1	4	2	5	1	1
Intestines	211	3858	3	7	9	56	1	4
Kidneys	4	31	1	6	2	2	—	—
Mesentery Fat ..	51	641	—	—	3	12	—	—
Meat	—	5109	—	309	—	153	—	19
Tripes	30	460	2	18	—	—	1	1
Skirts	33	134	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals (B)	1424	32375	501	1602	77	870	29	233
Total Weight (A) & (B) in lbs.	—	46379	—	3050	—	2431	—	968

The following table, in the form required by the Ministry of Health, gives further details of the incidence of tuberculosis and other diseases in animals slaughtered and inspected in the Borough during the year 1950 :—

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number Killed ..	2120	476	2113	6188	683
Number Inspected ..	2120	476	2113	6188	683
All diseases except Tuberculosis ..					
Whole Carcases Condemned ..	13	1	16	36	8
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	772	180	11	467	58
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ..	37.0%	38.0%	1.3%	8.1%	9.7%
Tuberculosis					
Whole carcasses condemned	17	1	1	—	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	180	153	1	—	19
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis ..	9.3%	32.3%	0.09 %	—	3.2%

(c) Other Foods.

The following other articles of food were inspected and surrendered as being unfit for human consumption during the year :—

TINNED FOODS.

Tinned Meat	...	...	...	106 Tins
Tinned Fish	...	...	...	197 Tins
Tinned Milk	...	...	...	342 Tins
Tinned Vegetables	...	...	...	150 Tins
Tinned Spaghetti	...	...	...	24 Tins
Tinned Fruit	...	...	...	239 Tins
Tinned Soup	...	...	...	11 Tins
Tinned Syrup	...	...	...	3 Tins
Tinned Jam ...	...	...	...	24 Tins
Tinned Pickles	...	...	...	23 Tins

Tinned Pastry Mix	19 Tins
Tinned Rabbit	10 Tins
Tinned Coffee	1 Tin
Tinned Mincemeat	2 Tins
Tinned Orange Juice	5 Tins
Tinned Puddings	2 Tins

WET FISH.

Herrings	26 Stones
Plaice	3 Stones
Kippers	2 Stones

SUNDRIES.

Sausage Meat	72 lbs.
Cheese	29 lbs.
Biscuits	20 lbs.
Bacon	4 lbs.
Figs	28 lbs.
Eggs	406
Gravy Powder	37 pkts.
Salad Cream	2 bottles
Potato Crisps	19 pkts.

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the year 1950.

(Civilians only).

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Admitted to Isolation Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	24	17	—
Diphtheria	4	4	—
Measles	19	—	—
Whooping Cough	10	—	—
Erysipelas	3	1	—
Dysentery	3	2	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—
Pneumonia	8	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	8	8	—
Totals	80	32	—

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIED CASES

AGE—over	0	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65
AND UNDER	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65	—
Disease												
Scarlet Fever	—	—	1	4	4	14	—	1	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—
Measles ..	2	—	1	8	1	2	5	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ..	—	2	1	—	1	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Dysentery ..	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Pneumonia ..	—	—	1	1	—	4	—	—	1	—	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio-myelitis	—	—	1	—	1	3	—	1	1	1	—	—
Totals ..	2	2	5	13	8	30	5	2	6	3	3	1

Scarlet Fever.

24 cases occurred during 1950. 17 of these were removed to hospital and 7 isolated at home. 14 cases occurred in school children, 9 in children under school age and one in an adult.

Diphtheria.

Four cases of Diphtheria occurred. All were in un-immunised adults. All were removed to hospital.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The following are the figures of cases immunised at the School Clinic, Warwick Road :—

Under 5 years ...	...	...	181
School Children	...	...	91
Re-inforcement Doses	...	...	388

In addition to the figures given above, a large number of children were immunised by the general practitioners under the National Health Service Act. Relatively few children were found entering school who had not been immunised in infancy. Unfortunately complete figures were not readily available, but there is reason to believe that the numbers immunised for the Borough apart from the County, were much higher than those given above.

Anterior Poliomyelitis.

Eight cases occurred in 1950. Of these 2 were paralytic and 6 non-paralytic. All were removed to the Oxford City Isolation Hospital. Both the paralytic cases occurred in young adults;

thus of the three cases which occurred in adults, two were associated with paralysis. Of the five cases in children all were non-paralytic.

Other Diseases.

The number of cases of Measles and Whooping Cough was low in both cases.

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1 to 5 ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 15 ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
15 to 25 ..	6	6	—	—	—	1	—	—
25 to 35 ..	4	4	—	—	1	2	—	—
35 to 45 ..	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 to 55 ..	2	1	—	1	—	1	—	—
55 to 65 ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 & over ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	17	14	1	2	2	4	—	—

Death Rate per 1,000 from Tuberculosis :—

	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>
Banbury ... ..	.31	Nil
England and Wales ...	.32	.043

Mass Radiography.

The Mass Radiography Unit of the Oxford Regional Board visited Banbury between 24th October, 1949 and 3rd February, 1950.

Excluding school children under 14, 4,822 persons passed through the Unit. As a result, 12 new cases of active Pulmonary Tuberculosis were discovered. This represents a rate of 2.49 per 1,000.

BOROUGH OF BANBURY
FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948
Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year
1950

Part I of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ..	24	27	2	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local Authority ..	125	115	18	—
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	10	3	2	—
Total ..	159	145	22	—

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of Prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness ..	3	3	—	2	—
San. Conveniences (Sec. 7) Insufficient	2	2	—	2	—
San. Conveniences (Sec. 7) unsuitable or defective ..	12	12	—	5	—
Other offences ..	5	5	—	—	—
Total ..	22	22	—	9	—

3. Outworkers

No. of outworkers in August list required by Sec. 110 (1) (c) ..	22
(All outworkers engaged in making of wearing apparel)	
No. of cases of default in supplying lists	Nil
No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Nil

**To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Banbury.**

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT, 1950.

It is my privilege to submit herewith my fifth annual report which gives details of the work carried out by your Sanitary Inspectors during the year 1950 and, once again, I am able to record satisfactory progress in all aspects of the Department's duties.

The year under review is noteworthy by reason of the special attention which has been given to the work of raising the standard of food hygiene in the area and for the increased attention given to the sampling of ice cream and the supervision of premises associated with the manufacture and sale of this commodity. At the same time, no relaxation has occurred with respect to our duties in connection with work under the Public Health Act and the Housing Act, whilst our routine work under the Shops Act, Factories Act and the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act has been steadily continued. Food inspection and the control of the milk supply have also received special attention during the year and it is true to say that the Department continues to be more than fully occupied with the many duties imposed upon it by present-day legislation.

The attached report gives details of the various inspections made during the year; the notices served and complied with and the improvements effected thereby. Some comments on the year's activities follow the statistical tables and I trust these comments will be helpful to the Corporation in assessing the year's work.

In submitting this report, it is again a pleasure for me to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their continued support and courtesy. Also, I would thank the Medical Officer of Health, the Town Clerk and the other Chief Officers of the Corporation for their ready help at all times.

Finally, my thanks are especially due to my own staff who, without exception, have contributed in great measure to the successful year's work which this report records.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

F. APPLEYARD, F.R.San.I., D.P.A. (Lond.)

March, 1951.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS MADE, 1950.

Public Heath Act.

Houses inspected	892
Verminous premises	15
Infectious Disease enquiries	126
Drainage inspections	183
Re-visits and work in progress	2901
Van dwellings	156
Smoke abatement	92
Streams and watercourses	19
Vacant land and refuse dumps	15
Canal Boats	35
Water sampling	19
Refuse accommodation	187

Housing Act.

Houses inspected and recorded	190
Re-visits and work in progress	1270
Housing applications	19

Factories Act.

Factories inspected	115
Workplaces inspected	27
Outworkers premises inspected	3

Shops Act.

Shops inspected	67
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Food and Drugs Act.

Bakehouses	65
General food shops	161
Fried fish shops	19
Food preparing premises	43
Slaughterhouse	575
Knackers Yard	6
Public houses	66
Public Markets	92
Food inspection visits	143
Restaurants and cafés	53

Ice-cream premises	...	...	...	114
Food vehicles	...	...	...	13
Dairies	...	...	...	29
Milk sampling visits	...	...	...	60
Ice-cream sampling visits	...	...	...	180

Miscellaneous.

Rats and mice	...	...	...	8
Schools	...	...	...	7
Cinemas and public halls	...	...	...	4
Diseases of Animals Acts	...	...	...	179
Interviews with owners and builders	...	...	...	1041
Keeping of animals	...	...	...	116
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	482
Total visits and inspections made	...	...	...	9787

NOTICES SERVED AND COMPLIED WITH, 1950.

Type of Notice	Out Standing 31-12-49	Served 1950	Complied with 1950	Out Standing 31-12-50
Public Health Act-Prelim ..	87	367	392	62
Public Health Act-Statutory	113	170	173	110
Housing Act-Prelim ..	5	38	40	3
Housing Act-Statutory ..	114	24	46	92
Factories Act-Informal ..	4	22	22	4
Shops Acts-Informal ..	7	3	8	2
Food and Drugs Act-Informal	28	66	64	30
Milk and Dairies Order- Informal	—	3	3	—
Canal Boats Regulations- Informal	4	2	3	3
Totals	362	695	751	306

**SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE, NOTICES SERVED, NOTICES
COMPLIED WITH, DEFECTS REMEDIED AND PREMISES IMPROVED,
1950.**

	Public Health and Housing Acts	Food and Drugs Act	Factories Act	Shops Acts	Misc. Acts & Reg's	Totals
Inspections made ..	6119	1619	145	67	1837	9787
Notices served ..	599	66	22	3	5	695
Notices complied with ..	669	64	22	8	6	769
Defects remedied	2224	127	39	17	38	2445
Premises improved	436	55	25	6	11	533

NUISANCES ABATED AND DEFECTS REMEDIED, 1950.

(a) Dwelling Houses.

Roofs repaired or renewed	...	...	146
External walls re-pointed	...	...	123
Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	48
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed	...	...	57
Dampness abated generally	...	...	49
Wall plaster repaired	...	...	192
Ceiling plaster repaired	...	...	88
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	114
Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	278
Fireplaces and cooking ranges repaired or renewed	...	...	76
Coppers provided or repaired	...	...	34
Sinks repaired or renewed	...	...	10
Sink waste pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	17
Repairs to water supplies	...	...	32
Food stores provided or repaired	...	...	2
New sashcords to windows provided	...	...	199
Stairs repaired or renewed	...	...	16
Doors and woodwork repaired or renewed	...	...	78
Chimneys and stacks repaired	...	...	80
Yards and passages paved or repaired	...	...	17

Rooms cleansed and re-decorated	...	256
Overcrowding abated	... ..	4
Handrails provided in staircases	... ..	14
Houses closed or demolished	... ..	9
Drains cleared of obstructions	... ..	49
Drains repaired or renewed	... ..	13
Drains connected to sewer	... ..	1
Inspection chambers provided to drains		10
Soil pipes, vent. shafts, etc., repaired	...	3
W.C. compartments repaired and cleansed		64
W.C. pedestals provided	... ..	25
W.C. cisterns provided to W.C.'s hitherto without	... ..	1
New dustbins provided	... ..	48
Offensive accumulations removed	...	13
Verminous rooms disinfected	... ..	20
W.C. cisterns repaired or renewed	...	25
Nuisance from animals abated	... ..	37

(b) Shops Acts.

Additional water closets provided	...	1
Water closet cleansed and repaired	...	1
Water supply provided	... ..	1
Seats for female assistants provided	...	1
Notices re Early Closing Day exhibited		2
Notices re Assistants' Half Holiday exhibited	... ..	2
Notices re Seats for females exhibited		2
Abstract of Act exhibited	... ..	3
Young persons records properly kept	...	2
Structural repairs carried out	... ..	2

(c) Factories.

Additional water closets provided	...	4
Water closets cleansed, repaired, etc.	...	20
Structural repairs completed	... ..	4
Urinals cleansed and screened	... ..	4
Drains repaired	... ..	3
Smoke and fume nuisances abated	...	4

(d) Bakehouses.

Water closets repaired and cleansed	...	1
Rooms cleansed and re-decorated	...	4
Structural repairs completed	... ..	4
Accumulations of refuse removed	...	1
Keeping of animals in bakehouse ceased		1

(e) Dairies.

Dairies cleansed and re-decorated	...	2
Hot and cold water supplies provided	...	1
Sink provided	... ..	1
Drainage improvements	... ..	5

(f) Food Shops and Food Preparing Premises.

Constant hot water supplies provided	...	2
Rooms cleansed and re-decorated	...	13
Washing basins provided	... ..	1
Water closet provided	... ..	1
First aid outfit provided	... ..	1
Cold water supply laid on to sink	...	1
W.C's cleansed and repaired	... ..	3
Structural repairs completed	... ..	6
Dustbins provided	... ..	10
Food stores improved	... ..	6
Accumulation of refuse removed	...	4
Floors cleansed	... ..	4
Drainage repairs	... ..	2

(g) Cafes and Public Houses.

Additional water closets provided	...	5
Constant supply of hot water provided	...	5
Rooms and cellars cleansed and re-decorated	... ..	12
W.C's cleansed and repaired	... ..	12
Urinals provided or repaired	... ..	4
Structural repairs completed	... ..	2
Sinks provided	... ..	4
Drainage repairs	... ..	1
Cold water supply laid on to sink	...	2
Dustbins provided	... ..	3
New café provided to replace unsatisfactory premises	... ..	1
Dustbins removed from café kitchens	...	2

COMPLAINTS.

During the year, 264 complaints were received at the office with reference to the following matters:—

Defective water closets	... ..	23
Defective house roofs	... ..	30
Offensive smells	... ..	12
Choked drains	... ..	41

Burst water pipes and defective water supplies	...	...	...	...	15
Defective dustbins	...	...	...	...	15
Dumping of refuse	...	...	...	...	5
Flooding of cellars, etc.	...	...	...	...	5
Defective gutters and rainwater pipes	...	...	...	...	8
Defective windows	...	...	...	...	6
Verminous and dirty houses	...	...	...	...	5
Defective firegrates	...	...	...	...	6
Absence of internal water supply	...	...	...	...	1
Dampness	...	...	...	...	16
Smoke and chimney nuisances	...	...	...	...	7
Keeping of animals	...	...	...	...	2
General defects	...	...	...	...	67
					<hr/> 264 <hr/>

DRAINAGE AND WATER CLOSETS

During the year, 49 choked drains were dealt with by the Department and, in addition, at 17 premises drains were re-constructed or repaired under our supervision—this work including the provision of 10 new inspection chambers. Several choked sewers were also discovered during the year and in each case these received prompt attention after being referred to the Borough Engineer's Department.

Serious drainage trouble arose during the period under review at a large dairy premises in Lower Cherwell Street when the whole of the system became choked. The work of clearing these drains proved to be a long and very difficult operation owing to the fact that no plans existed showing the direction and depth of the drains, and it was only possible to locate the drainage system by excavations. During the period in which these investigations were being made, the normal effluent from the dairy had to be continuously pumped into the sewer, but it is pleasing to be able to report that the normal work of the dairy was not materially affected. The drains were ultimately traced, cleared and repaired and, on my suggestion, the owners provided proper access to the system by building three inspection chambers at appropriate positions on the line of drainage. The drains from adjoining premises in Swan Close Road were also affected by this blockage and the owner of these premises has now diverted the drainage from his sanitary conveniences into Swan Close Road so as to avoid any similar trouble in the future.

Eleven additional water closets were provided at various

premises in the Borough during 1950; 101 water closet compartments were repaired; 25 new pedestal pans fixed and 26 flushing cisterns were repaired or renewed. In addition, proper flushing facilities were provided to one water closet which had hitherto been flushed by hand.

During 1950, six sinks or washing basins were provided at food premises in the area.

CANAL BOATS.

Twenty-five canal boats were inspected during the year and eight of these boats were found to be carrying tar. The total number of persons for which the boats were registered was $77\frac{1}{2}$ (aft cabins $75\frac{1}{2}$, fore cabins 2) and the boats were occupied by 19 adult males, 26 adult females and 10 children—a total of 60 persons. Three boats were found to be infringing the Regulations during the year and notices were served upon the owners concerned. No cases of infectious disease were met with on any of the boats inspected.

VERMINOUS PREMISES.

Twenty rooms infested by bugs or fleas were disinfected by the Department during 1950 and 15 inspections of such premises were made by the Sanitary Inspectors. In each case the premises were dealt with by the use of some form of D.D.T. preparation and, once again, I am able to record satisfactory results achieved by the use of this product. In addition to this disinfestation work carried out by the Corporation, a quantity of D.D.T. powder and liquid was supplied to residents on request and, in this way, several cases of minor infestation by fleas, cockroaches, ants, etc., were dealt with satisfactorily.

REFUSE ACCOMMODATION.

During the year, 61 new dustbins were provided at various premises in the Borough following the service of notices by the Corporation. It was unnecessary for the Corporation to supply any dustbins in default of the owners during 1950.

FACTORIES AND BAKEHOUSES.

The routine inspection of factories and bakehouses was again given close attention throughout the year and 210 visits of inspection were made to such premises. 30 premises were improved on our request and 50 defects or contraventions were remedied—details of this work being fully recorded on page 24 of this report.

SHOPS ACTS.

The general routine inspection of shops was maintained during 1950 and 67 inspections were recorded under this heading. All duties under the Shops Act, 1950, are carried out by your Sanitary Inspectors and, as a result of the inspections made during the year, six premises were improved and at a further five premises proper notices were exhibited and proper records kept at the request of the Department.

WATER SUPPLIES.

During the year, repairs were effected to burst water pipes or to defective water fittings at 32 premises following the service of notices by the Department and at two further premises, where town's water was not available, repairs were carried out to pumps on our request.

The sampling of water supplies at premises not connected to the public mains was continued during the year, 14 samples being taken from wells and springs for the purpose of bacteriological examination. Of these 14 samples, three were reported to be highly satisfactory; eight were found to be slightly contaminated with organisms of the non-faecal type and two samples were reported to show evidence of gross pollution with faecal organisms. No action was taken with regard to the eight slightly contaminated samples; a further sample was taken—which proved satisfactory—in the case of the primary sample showing slight evidence of faecal contamination and, in regard to the two grossly contaminated samples, the owners were requested to clean out the wells as it was not practicable to require them to provide town's water.

As a result of the sampling of well water supplies it is possible now to report that, since 1946, town's water has been provided at 18 premises in the Borough which were hitherto supplied by unsatisfactory well or spring supplies and also that the well water supplies have been improved to a satisfactory standard at six other premises on the outskirts of the town.

VAN DWELLINGS.

During the year, 156 inspections were made with respect to van dwellings, 72 of these structures being inspected during the period of the annual Michaelmas Fair. The persons occupying the fair vehicles comprised 74 adult males, 84 adult females and 42 children. Generally speaking, the caravans were clean and well kept and, in most cases, were provided with their own sanitary convenience and dustbin. Very little overcrowding of the caravans was observed and no cases of infectious disease were

met with during the survey. The improved standard of cleanliness in these caravans, noticed in recent years, was again in evidence and, once again, I am able to report the willing co-operation of the fair people with the Department whilst they were in the Borough.

Following an inspection of the privately-owned caravan site in Station Road, certain improvements were effected on the suggestion of the Department. This work included the demolition and removal of twelve derelict structures; the provision of a reasonably hard surface for the remaining occupied structures; the provision of four new Elsan closets so as to provide separate accommodation for males and females; and the provision of a dustbin for each occupied dwelling. These improvements considerably improved this caravan site which is now in a much more satisfactory condition than it has been for some time.

Five instances of van dwellings being placed on unlicensed sites were reported to the Public Health Committee during the year and, in four cases, the caravans were removed from the sites following informal action by the Corporation. The remaining van dwelling was represented by the Medical Officer of Health as an unfit dwelling under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1936, and, after the making of a demolition order, the occupants were re-housed by the Corporation and the van dwelling demolished.

One licence was granted for the temporary siting of a van dwelling on land on the outskirts of the Borough during the year and one licence was withdrawn following the removal of a caravan from a previously licensed site.

At the close of the year there were still a few caravans on unlicensed sites in the area and these cases are at present being considered by the Corporation.

The present housing shortage has resulted in the creation of a caravan problem in most areas and, although the problem in Banbury is not so serious as in some towns, it remains one of some difficulty. There is no doubt that the provision of a properly constructed and well-supervised caravan site in the Borough would be of decided advantage at the present time and the question of making such provision has been discussed by the Public Health Committee during the year under review. It would appear that the provision of a suitable site by the Corporation is the most satisfactory answer to the present problem, and it is to be hoped that progress towards this end will be made in the near future.

HOUSING.

As in previous years, a considerable proportion of the time of your Sanitary Inspectors was again devoted to the work of

improving the housing conditions in the Borough and it is possible, once again, to record good progress in this important field.

During 1950, the provisions of both the Public Health Act, 1936, and the Housing Act, 1936, were extensively used to secure improvements to houses in the area and the somewhat easier position, as regards labour and materials, mentioned in my last annual report, was maintained during the year. This resulted in a rather less time-lag occurring between the service of notices and the carrying out of the necessary work—a feature which is reflected in the reduced number of statutory notices served during the present year as compared with 1949.

In the period under review, 892 inspections were recorded under the Public Health Act and 190 houses were inspected and recorded under the provisions of the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations. As a result of these inspections it was found necessary to serve 405 informal notices and 194 statutory notices and, of these, 432 informal notices and 219 statutory notices were complied with during the year.

The number of dwelling-houses repaired during 1950 was 436 and in no cases was it necessary for the Corporation to use their default powers under the two Acts mentioned above.

Four unfit houses were demolished during the year—three as a result of informal action and the fourth following official representation by the Medical Officer of Health and four unfit houses were closed during the same period. Two of the latter were dealt with formally under the Housing Act, 1936, and the remaining two houses were closed by their owners following informal action by the Corporation. One appeal, against the Corporation's action in making a Closing Order on part of a building (a basement flat), was dismissed in the County Court with costs against the owner and a further appeal in respect of the same premises, on the grounds that the Corporation had failed to determine the Closing Order, was decided in favour of the Corporation with costs again being granted to the Corporation. The occupants of five of the unfit dwellings closed or demolished during the year were re-housed by the Corporation.

In spite of some little progress made during 1950, and in spite of the very creditable work done by the Corporation in the field of post-war housing, the general housing conditions in the Borough are still a matter of grave concern and it is still very evident that many people in the area are living under overcrowded or otherwise unsatisfactory housing conditions. Unsatisfactory housing conditions are at the root of much physical, and mental, ill-health and it is certain that satisfactory health standards will never be achieved until the housing problem is solved. It is to be regretted that the solution of this problem is not yet within sight and, as mentioned

in my last report, I am still of the opinion that a national housing survey would be of untold value in assessing the true position as regards housing both nationally and locally. Some 500/600 low-standard houses in the Borough have been surveyed during the past two years and, from the results shown by this survey, it is certain that a considerable amount of housing work—slum clearance, individual demolition orders and reconditioning work—will have to be faced at some time in the future by the Corporation together with an extensive building programme to re-house persons at present living in unfit and overcrowded houses.

In the meantime, the Department's efforts are being devoted to improving housing conditions wherever possible and to making living conditions as tolerable as possible in those areas which will have to receive drastic treatment at some future date.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Special attention was again given to the smoke problem by your officers during 1950 and, during the year, 92 visits of inspection were recorded. This figure included many timed observations of factory chimneys together with several advisory visits made to factories with regard to smoke nuisances. This advisory work being, in my opinion, the most valuable part of our duties with respect to smoke abatement.

During the year it was necessary for the Department to deal with 7 cases of excessive smoke emission and in two of these instances the position was complicated by complaints of grit emission from the chimneys concerned. In six of the cases dealt with substantial progress was made towards securing abatement of the trouble—the remaining case, the most serious and most difficult one, still being under consideration at the close of the year.

Following long-standing trouble from excessive smoke emission and from the emission of grit from a laundry chimney, a new Cochrane boiler was installed and a new, and higher, chimney provided. Since this work was carried out a very decided improvement has been noticed with respect to these premises—both as regards to smoke, and grit, emission. At another laundry in the town, advice given regarding proper stoking methods coupled with the obtaining of a better quality fuel supply had the effect of reducing the output of black smoke from the chimney of the laundry concerned.

The chimneys from two large dairy premises in the Borough caused some little trouble during the year and, in one case, small improvements to the boiler, together with a re-arrangement of of the stoker's duties, effected an improvement. At the other dairy, two new boilers are at present being provided together

with automatic underfeed stokers and it is anticipated that this work will minimise the likelihood of further trouble from these premises.

Some trouble was experienced in connection with two other factories in the area. In the first of these cases, a dry-cleaning factory, a new vertical boiler was provided whilst, at the latter premises, the cleaning of flues at more frequent intervals together with the provision of a better grade of fuel and more efficient stoking achieved the desired improvement.

The most troublesome case—a tar distillery—was dealt with during 1949 and again in 1950. A statutory notice, served in 1949, was abated early in 1950 when a series of observations, taken at varied periods of the day, showed a very decided improvement. Later in the year, unfortunately, trouble was again experienced and a further series of timed observations showed frequent heavy emissions of black smoke varying from $27\frac{1}{2}$ to $7\frac{1}{2}$ mins. of such smoke in a 30 minute observation. The matter was again carefully considered by the Public Health Committee and, as all efforts by informal means appeared to be of no avail, a statutory notice was again served on the firm concerned. This notice was not expired at the close of the year and, at the time of preparing this report, the matter was still under observation.

The latter case has been one of great difficulty and the firm have had the benefit of advice both from your officers and from the Regional Advisory Officer of the Ministry of Fuel and Power. It seems to be agreed that proper stoking of the boilers at these premises can reduce the nuisance but, unfortunately, permanent abatement does not yet appear to have been secured.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION.

During 1950, the Sanitary Inspectors made 126 visits of enquiry into notified infectious disease cases and a report on each case was submitted to the Medical Officer of Health. As a result of the occurrence of infectious disease, 85 houses were disinfected during the year.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

The work of eradicating rats and mice from premises in the Borough was continued during 1950 and the Corporation continued to participate in the N.S.19 scheme of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries whereby a free service is given in respect of work carried out at private dwellings whilst a charge is made for rodent destruction work at business premises.

The year's work is summarised in the following table and

figures for the four previous years are given for the purpose of comparison:—

(a) Surface Infestations.

	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946
No. of complaints received	132	133	123	154	115
No. of premises inspected	1666	1511	1792	1591	489
No. of revisits made ...	734	858	1150	1720	1363
No. of premises cleared ...	406	407	474	508	329
Amount of bait laid:—					
Pre-bait (lbs.) ...	533	638	702	627	391
Poison bait (lbs.) ...	213	220	260	234	207
No. of treatments by gas	2	2	3	6	2
No. of times traps used ...	65	37	50	26	21
Actual rat bodies found ...	666	738	852	868	900

(b) Sewer Infestations.

During the four-weekly periods ending 27th May, 1950, and 2nd December, 1950, maintenance treatments of the Corporation's sewers were carried out—the former being a full maintenance treatment of the whole of the sewers, whilst the latter was restricted to a treatment of those portions of the sewers which were seriously affected on previous occasions. The results of these two treatments, together with the results of previous similar work are set out below:—

<i>Date of Treatment</i>	<i>No. of manholes baited</i>	<i>No. showing pre-bait takes</i>
December, 1950	73	17
May, 1950	234	22
November, 1949	243	23
May, 1949	265	20
1948	237	81
1947	211	84
1946	240	73
1944	241	94

The results of the sewer baiting carried out during the year show that the reduction in the degree of infestation, mentioned in my last report, has been maintained during 1950 and it is still reasonable to assume that this reduction is mainly due to the constant attention given to rodent control work generally in the Borough during the past few years.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

During 1950, all animals intended for human food in Banbury and district were slaughtered at the Ministry of Food's Centralised Slaughterhouse in Swan Close Road, Banbury. As mentioned in previous reports, the meat inspection duties of your Inspectors were carried out smoothly owing to the amicable relationships which have been created between your officers and the Ministry's officials there.

An increase in the number of animals slaughtered occurred for the second year in succession—the figures for the last three years being 11,580 (1950); 9,934 (1949) and 8,065 (1948). In every case, I am again able to report that the carcase and offal were inspected before it reached the public and 96 carcasses and organs were entirely condemned during the year, whilst 1,841 other carcasses had some part or organ rejected as being unfit for human food.

The total weight of meat and offal found to be unfit during the year was approximately $23\frac{1}{2}$ tons—as compared with $27\frac{1}{2}$ tons for the previous year.

The following table shows the number of animals killed and the weight of unsound meat and offal condemned during the last few years:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Animals Killed</i>	<i>Weight of unsound meat and offal</i>
1950	11,580	52,828 lbs.
1949	9,934	61,603 lbs.
1948	8,065	55,097 lbs.
1947	10,658	58,214 lbs.
1946	13,356	42,417 lbs.
1945	15,654	38,282 lbs.

In addition to the above-mentioned unsound meat and offal a considerable amount of tinned foods and other unsound foodstuffs were dealt with during the year—143 visits of inspection being recorded for this purpose.

Full details of the unsound meat and other foodstuffs dealt with during the year are set out in the Medical Officer of Health's annual report.

The 100% inspection of animals killed at the local abattoir entailed a considerable amount of overtime being worked by your Inspectors as well as duties having to be carried out on occasions on Sundays and on public holidays. It is interesting to note that, during 1950, some 300 hours were worked outside normal office hours in the carrying out of these important duties, and I am

pleased to be able to record the willing and cheerful way in which such additional work has been carried out during the year by your officers, in spite of the fact that neither extra remuneration nor compensating holidays were granted for the extra hours worked. If, as one anticipates, the number of animals killed continues to increase, it may become necessary for some consideration to be given to this question of overtime either by way of extra remuneration for additional time worked or by way of compensating leave being given in lieu thereof.

MILK CONTROL.

The supervision of milk distribution in the Borough was well maintained during 1950 by means of regular routine inspections of the various dairies being carried out by your officers and through the medium of sampling. 29 inspections of dairies were made during the year and 66 samples of milk were taken by the Department for examination for keeping quality and efficient pasteurisation.

The following figures give details of the samples taken during the year, together with the results of the four previous years:—

	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946
Samples taken	66	135	138	120	81
Samples satisfactory ...	66	100	110	97	64
Samples not satisfactory	—	35	28	23	17

The 66 samples taken during 1950 included 48 samples of Pasteurised Milk; 10 samples of Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised Milk and 8 samples of Heat Treated Milk. In addition to these samples, I was notified by the County Council's Officer that he had taken 49 samples (42 Pasteurised and 7 T.T. Pasteurised) in Banbury during the year and that all these samples were satisfactory.

The excellent results recorded during the year is due, in the main, to the fact that no raw milk (except Tuberculin Tested Milk) is, to our knowledge, at present retailed in the area. The approximate percentage of raw T.T. milk sold in the area is 5% so that it can be said that about 95% of the milk passing through the town's dairies is now rendered safe by pasteurisation. The beneficial effect of such pasteurisation being reflected, in my opinion, in the excellent results shown by the sampling work of both your own officers and the officers of the Oxfordshire County Council.

With the coming into operation of the new Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949, all the dairies in use in the Borough were re-registered and all the milk distributors were similarly dealt with.

There are now, therefore, eight dairies on our register and eight persons or firms registered as milk distributors in the Borough.

One dealers' licence, under the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, was issued during the year and three dealers' licences were granted under the provisions of the Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Hot and cold water supplies were installed at one dairy during the year and a suitable washing basin provided; substantial drainage improvements were effected at a large wholesale dairy and, in two cases, dairies were cleansed and re-decorated upon requests from your officers, during the year.

FOOD PREMISES.

During 1950, special attention was again given to the supervision of premises in the Borough where food is sold, prepared for sale, or stored and, with the adoption of Bye-laws under the provisions of Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, a new full survey of all food premises in the area was commenced. As a result of this survey, the detailed conditions found at all premises were fully recorded and, where necessary, the attention of the persons responsible was called to contraventions of the Bye-laws or of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. At the same time, suggestions on matters not fully covered by existing legislation were made where regarded as necessary to raise the standard of food hygiene in the area—particularly as regards the personal standard of hygiene of those engaged in the food trades.

A total of 1,619 inspections under the Food and Drugs Act were made during the year; 66 notices were served with respect to contraventions of the Act or Bye-laws; 64 notices were complied with; 127 defects were remedied; and 55 premises were thereby improved.

The following summary shows the number of food premises improved during 1950 and gives comparative figures for the four previous years:—

<i>Type of Premises</i>	<i>No. improved during the year</i>				
	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946
Butchers shops	7	—	4	11	17
Bakehouses	6	6	7	15	11
General food shops and food preparing premises ...	29	19	23	13	7
Cafés, restaurants and public houses	13	20	11	30	9
Totals ...	55	45	35	69	44
	—	—	—	—	—

The work carried out in connection with food premises during 1950 is summarised on page 25 of this report and I feel that the statistics given in the above table show that consistent work is now being carried out in the Borough with respect to food hygiene and that, on the whole, one can be reasonably satisfied with the conditions prevailing in the food premises of the town.

In connection with this work, I cannot refrain, once again, from expressing my appreciation of the active co-operation which I have received from the food traders in the Borough—and their employees—in this work. There is no doubt that, in general, the food traders in the town are most anxious to maintain a reasonably high standard of food hygiene and their active co-operation together with the excellent relations existing between them and your officers, is likely to assist very materially the attainment of such a standard.

Food inspection work and food hygiene duties are now taking up an increasing amount of the time of your Inspectors but, as I feel this work to be very important at the present time, I consider it time well spent, particularly when one has visual evidence of the results of the work reflected in the condition of the food premises of the area.

ICE CREAM.

During the year under review special efforts were made to raise the standard—from a cleanliness point of view—of ice cream sold in the Borough and, to that end, samples were taken from every manufacturer and retailer in the area. This proved a somewhat formidable undertaking because it involved a large amount of re-sampling where the first results were not satisfactory and it was also necessary to devote a great deal of time to inspections of plant and premises as well as to making advisory visits to the premises concerned. In addition, it was necessary to make many enquiries from other areas with regard to manufacturers making ice cream outside Banbury and retailing it in the town and, in this connection, I can record excellent co-operation from the Chief Sanitary Inspectors of many neighbouring authorities.

A total of 150 samples of ice cream were taken during the year and, of these, 90 were reported to be satisfactory (59.2%) and 62 were not satisfactory (40.8%). The following table gives the comparative figures for locally produced ice cream and for ice cream manufactured outside the Borough:—

	<i>Samples Taken</i>	<i>No. Satis'y</i>	<i>No. Not Satis'y</i>	<i>Percentage Satis'y</i>	<i>Percentage Not Satis'y</i>
Locally produced ice cream ...	55	34	21	61.8%	38.2%
Ice cream made outside Banbury ...	97	56	41	57.7%	42.3%
Totals ...	152	90	62	59.2%	40.8%

The gradings of all samples taken during the year—distinguishing locally manufactured ice cream from that made outside the Borough—are given in the following table :—

	<i>Grade 1</i>	<i>Grade 2</i>	<i>Grade 3</i>	<i>Grade 4</i>	<i>Total</i>
Locally produced ice cream	18	16	11	10	55
Ice cream made outside Banbury ...	20	36	31	10	97
	38	52	42	20	152

Summarising the year's work, it was found that the ice cream produced locally compares quite favourably with the ice cream produced in other areas and, although the position is not so satisfactory as one could wish it to be, it is felt that the work done during the year was of value in so far that, in many cases, our efforts resulted in a higher standard being achieved.

Comparative figures of the samples taken in 1950 and those taken in the three previous years are given below :—

	1950	1949	1948	1947
Grade 1 ...	38	22	10	3
Grade 2 ...	52	6	2	5
Grade 3 ...	42	6	11	2
Grade 4 ...	20	6	2	3
Totals ...	152	40	25	13

Two further premises were registered for the manufacture and sale of ice cream during the year and nine additional premises were registered for the sale of pre-packed ice cream only during the same period.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR UNDER THE DISEASES OF ANIMAL ACTS FOR THE YEAR 1950.

(1) Anthrax and Sheep Scab.

No outbreaks of anthrax or sheep scab were reported during the year 1950.

(2) Swine Fever.

No outbreak of swine fever was reported in pigs on premises within the Borough during the year 1950.

(3) Foot and Mouth Disease.

No outbreaks of Foot and Mouth Disease occurred during the year in which the Borough was included.

(4) Movement of Swine.

The number of licences issued during the year, authorising the movement of swine from the Cattle Market to private premises was 950, involving the movement of 5,652 animals. These figures are considerably lower than previous years on account of the fact that the Regulations regarding the movement of swine were in abeyance from the 26th January, 1950, to the 2nd August, 1950. The Regulations were re-introduced on the latter date and have remained in operation ever since.

Three contraventions of the Movement of Swine Regulations took place during the year and all were reported to the appropriate Committee of the Council. In two cases the offenders were cautioned and in the third case proceedings were taken with the result that the person concerned was fined £3 and costs.

(5) Importation of Animals.

One licence was received during the year authorising the movement of 48 Irish cattle from the landing place to the Cattle Market. These cattle were re-licensed to private premises.

(6) Sheep Dipping.

The number of sheep dipped in the Borough during the year was 962—a single dip being used for 899 sheep at the first dipping whilst 63 sheep were dipped a second time. In addition, 165 Kent sheep and lambs were licensed to the Cattle Market for sale, all of which had been previously double-dipped or dipped by the use of an approved single dip. The Inspectors of the districts to which these sheep were removed were notified and particulars of the dipping given.

(7) Transit of Animals—Cleansing and Disinfection of Vehicles.

During the year 1950 5,105 vehicles used for the conveyance of animals were cleansed and disinfected, an average weekly number of 98, for a 52 weeks period. The comparative figures for 1949 being 3,804, with an average of 73 weekly.

F. APPLEYARD, D.P.A. (Lond.), F.R.S.I.,

*Inspector under the Diseases of Animals Acts
and Orders.*
